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ASHLEY  
SCHOOL  
ASHLEY  
1882-1992  
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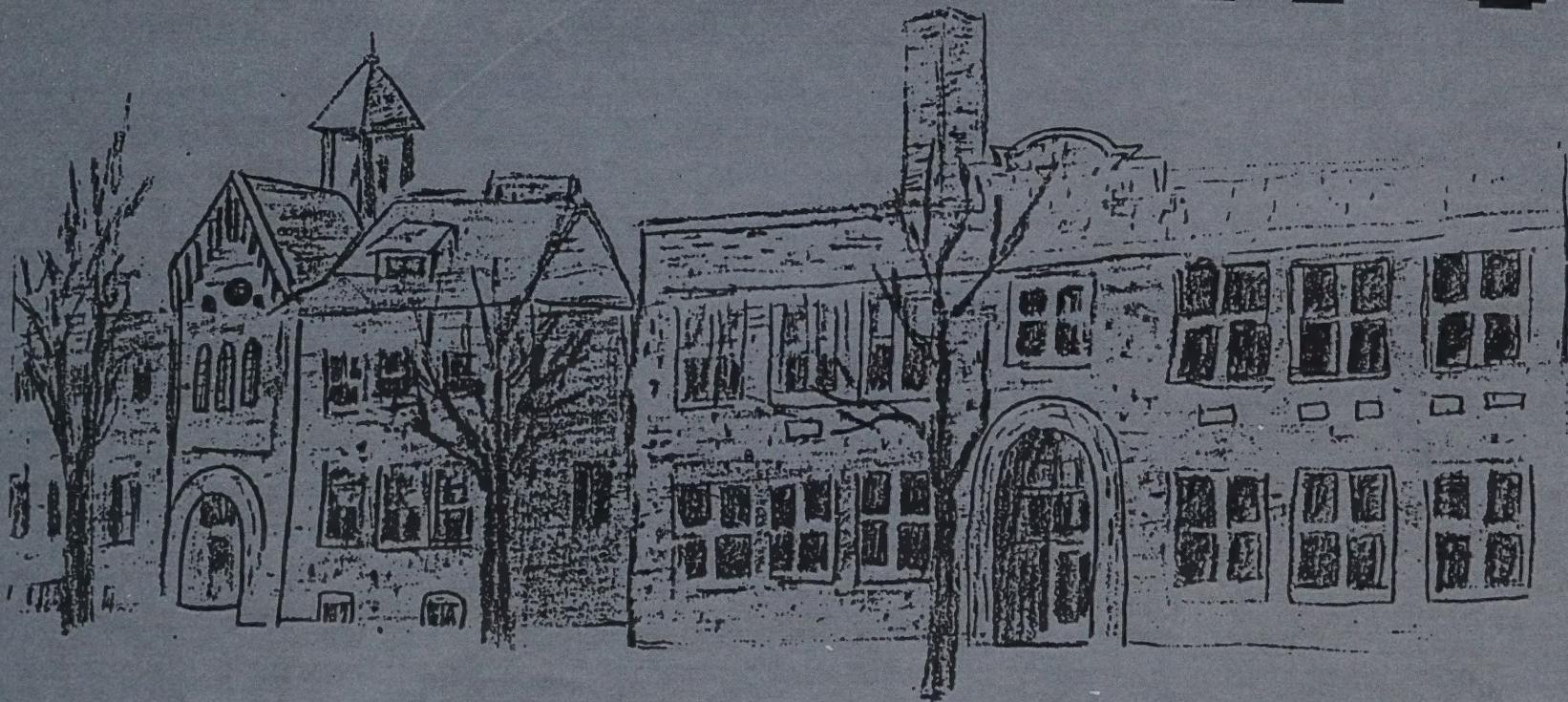


ASHLEY SCHOOL  
1892-1992

Interviews of Ashley alumni by fourth grade students of the Ashley  
Elementary School in 1992-1993



# ASHLEY SCHOOL



1892-1992



The 1992-93 Fourth grade students of Ashley Elementary  
wish to thank many alumni who have shared wonderful  
stories about their years at Ashley School.

Natalie Gerardot  
Taylor Reed  
David Brand O.J. Reed  
Heather Strite  
Adrienne Surfas  
Charlene Whitt  
Becky Stockert  
Chris Wilhelm Lindsay Dilley  
Justin Fins  
Patrick Brannon  
Tom Miller  
Eric Carper

Daniel Schiffli  
Matt Keough Shannon Bucks  
Steve Bennett  
Justin Scheumann  
Joley Brown  
Chris Grogg  
Erica DeLuccay  
Rochelle Tjek  
Danielle Curtis Rachel  
Echo Stoy Speck



# HISTORY OF ASHLEY SCHOOL 1892-1992



In 1929 a new high school building was connected to the original building. It had a large assembly room, library, five classrooms, restrooms, and an office. Gym classes and sports were held at the fire hall downtown.

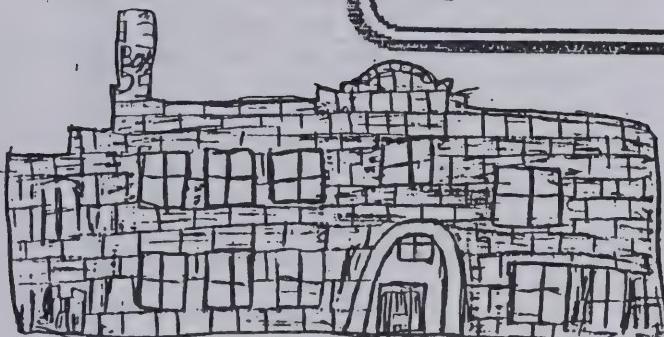
Additional classrooms were needed over the years and so another building was connected by a walkway in 1956. The new wing included five classrooms, a gymnasium - auditorium, locker rooms, and restrooms.

In December of 1892 the first school in Ashley, IN was completed. It was a red brick, two story building with 6 classrooms and an outhouse.

Three students were in the graduating class in 1896

The last graduating class was in 1967. After that year high school students attended DeKalb High School.

In 1975 the original building was torn down and the remaining buildings were remodeled.



By Rachel Speer

## COMMENCEMENT ACTIVITIES



CLASS OF 1896

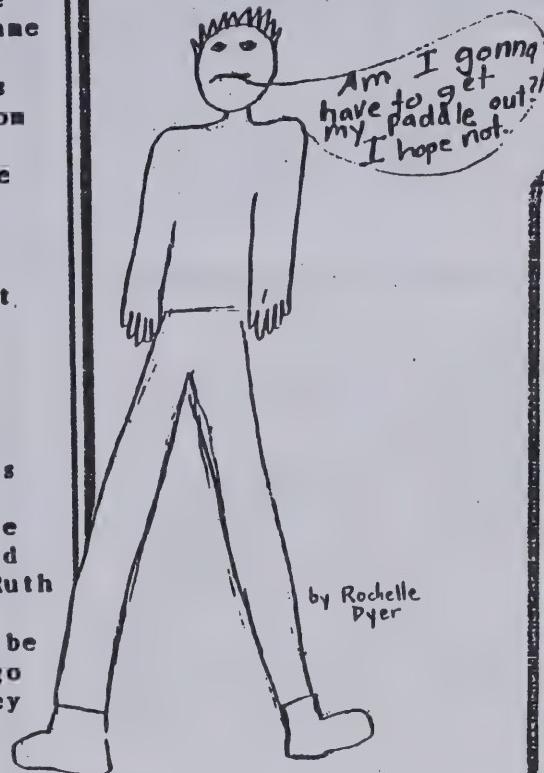
ASHLEY HIGH SCHOOL



Rochelle Dyer  
interviews  
Ruth Ann Kryder

Once there was a girl named Ruth Ann Kryder. She went to Ashley School, but she moved to Waterloo and had to finish school there. Ruth went to Ashley in 1945. She left in 1956. At Ashley there were some nice teachers and some wicked ones. Ruth had a favorite teacher that was one of the nice teachers. Her name was Opal Bowman. The reason why she liked her so well was because they were like her mom and dad. The most wicked teacher was Paul Everett. He taught 11th grade. If the class that he taught had a test, he would tell them to raise their hand if they went to a ball game. If they did they got an "A" on the test. If they did not, they got a "F". Ruth's principal's name was Fred Fredrick. He would talk out of the corner of his mouth. He had a butch hair cut. His hair was pure white and when he got mad you could see the red on his scalp. Ruth never was in trouble so she does not know what it would be like. For gym they had to go to the fire hall because they did not have a gym. Her favorite project was band. After lunch they could go up stairs and get ice cream or candy bars.

## Fred Fredrick is mad.



Ellen remembers the ball diamond and the big oak tree

By Joey Brown

Joey Brown  
interviews  
Ellen Rowe

My grandma started school in Ashley in 1954 and graduated in 1965. Mrs. Platter was her favorite teacher because she was a nice lady. The playground had a big ball diamond and a big oak tree. The classroom had white walls and gray curtains with one black board. Her favorite subject was art and she likes the parties and if you get a spanken or go to the office you get in trouble.

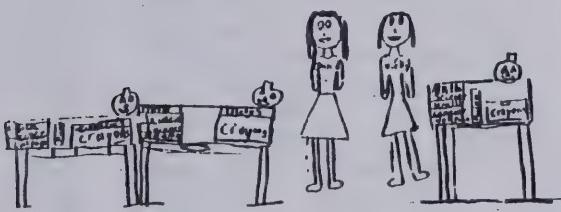


Charlene Whitt  
interviews  
Connie Turner

In 1965 - 1977 Connie Turner went to Ashley School. Her favorite teacher was Merritt Boyer. She liked him because he made his classes fun. If you got in trouble you would get sent to the principal or get spanked. She said she took field trips at the end of the year. She read adventure books and her best friend was Vicki Sherick. She went here 12 years and what she remembers the most is the good times with her friends.

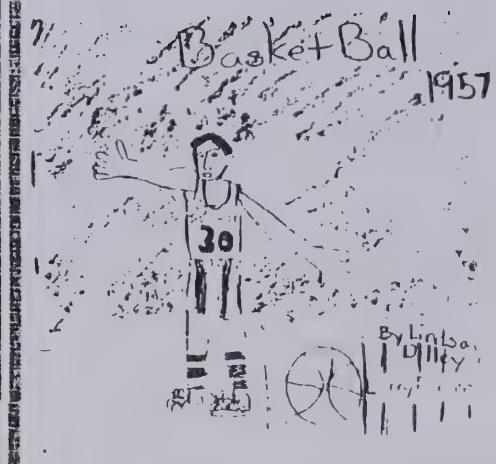
The thing Connie remembers most is the good times with her friends

Charlene Whitt



Roscoe Taylor

Roscoe Taylor remembers how they used to dive under their seats when they would dynamite stumps out of the road. Dirt would hit the windows of their classrooms. He said when Mr. Fredrick paddled someone you could hear it crack all over the school. He also remembers so many trees on the playground that when you hit a ball you could make it to third base before it dropped out of the trees. Olga Taylor remembers how they played pingpong in the basement and they could buy candy bars for a nickel at noon.



Basket. Ball

1957



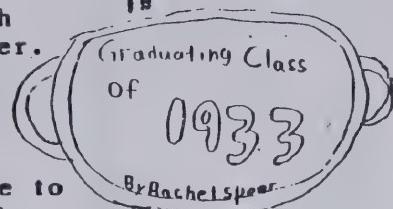
Lloyd and Helen Mertz

Lloyd and Helen Mertz both went to school at Ashley. Lloyd remembers the small country schools going together to have enough players to make up a baseball team. The most memorable game for him was when his team struck out "Mighty Tony" and won. Helen played piano for every operetta and was in every play. She said that most kids were involved in all the activities. She remembers going to a movie theater for the first time in her life her senior year.



Rachel Speer  
Interviews  
Elizabeth Walker

Elizabeth Walker graduated from Ashley High School in 1933. Her favorite teacher was Carl Becker. He taught grades seven through twelve. All of the students would sit in the assembly room, each grade would sit together. Then they would be dismissed to their classes, like Math, English, or Geography. The book Elizabeth liked to read was The Girl of the Limberlost. The most embarrassing thing that happened to her was when some boys stood up and threw erasers at a teacher with bad eyesight. One of the things she remembered was when it came time to graduate, their class had no money. During high school they had monthly dues of ten cents. They had kept their money in the bank. It was during the depression, and the bank lost all of their money, so they were not able to have a speaker at their commencement. Later the bank gave the class five dollars. The class bought a class plaque with the money.



Chris Grogg  
Interviews  
Anita Montgomery Allen

Anita is my aunt. Her favorite thing to do when she was in school was to read. When she was a senior she and a group of girls got an "F" in conduct. When she got in trouble she got a whippin' at home. She was on the cheerleading squad. Her favorite teacher was Dollie Arney. Anita graduated in 1953.



Heather Strite  
Interviews  
Roger Strite

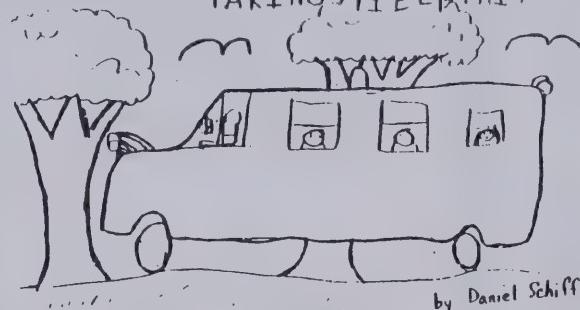
Roger Strite came to Ashley from kindergarten to sixth grade. His favorite teacher was nicknamed Mrs. Teabags. He liked her because she taught the most. His favorite subject was math at that time. When he got in trouble he had to stand in the corner. The building was wood, two stories high, and it had a basement. Special events for Roger were the mile run and track. He liked to take field trips, too.



Daniel Schiffli  
Interviews  
Larry Schiffli

My dad went to Ashley School from 1954-1966. His favorite teacher was Mrs. Favourite because she read stories to his class every day in the 6th grade. The elementary building was all wood. He had pretty much the same stuff we have today on the playground. My dad said there were no special projects or events. They didn't get a scholarship except for a pin. If you got in trouble you would get detention or a spankin' by the principal. My dad was really embarrassed when he fell down the stairs in 6th grade. My dad really remembers when he graduated from high school. They liked to read so they read all the books they could. He liked it when they took 1 field trip every year.

TAKING A FIELD TRIP



by Daniel Schiffli

1956  
Picture By  
Daniel Schiffli

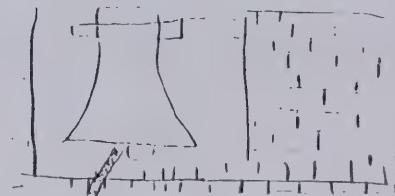


1958



by  
D.J. Reed

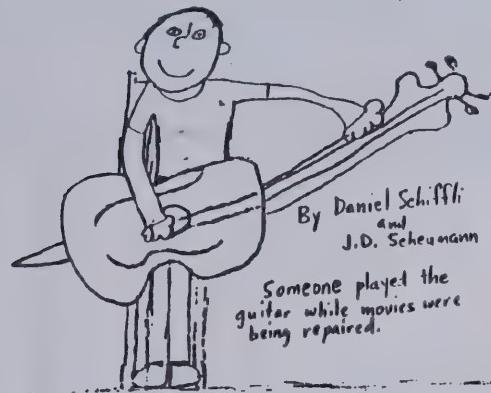
In the morning they would ring this Bell  
by Erica DeLucenay



Erica DeLucenay  
Interviews  
Nip DeLucenay

Nip took a class trip to Washington D.C. His favorite teacher was Mr. Cook. There were 12 grades in the school, with 34 kids. His principal was Fred Fredrick. When they got in trouble he would get paddled with a wooden paddle. They would ring the bell in the morning. All they had on the playground was a merry-go-round and swings. They had to run up town to the fire hall for gym.



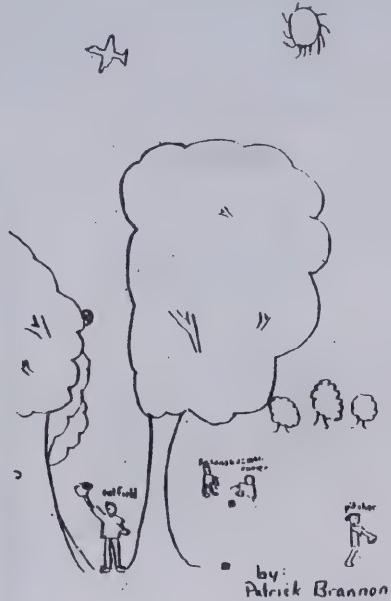


By Daniel Schiffli  
and  
J.D. Scheumann

Someone played the  
guitar while movies were  
being repaired.

### Eleanor Conrad

Eleanor Conrad remembers free movies at the parks of little towns around the county. They would show the movies against the building. When the film broke, someone would play a guitar until it could be repaired. She remembers in third grade getting spanked because she didn't use the scissors right and had a rough edge on a book she was making. She said she probably deserved it, though. One sad they had was folding foil gum wrappers into chain belts to wear until they had enough to turn in for the war effort.



by:  
Patrick Brannon



Lindsay  
and  
Shamon  
Buchs

Mrs. Favourite's  
talk with the girls.

### Decky Stockert interviews Cathy Bush

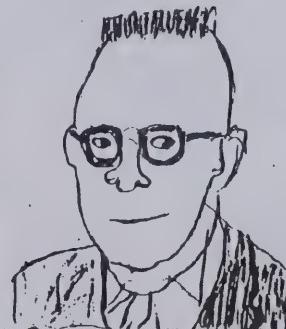
When Mrs. Bush was at Ashley School Mr. Fee was the principal, he was old but nice. Mr. Boyer was her favorite teacher because she taught her the most. The art room and computer room was one big room, it was the Home Ec room. Her favorite subject was English, because she liked to read. For lunch they had hot lunches, but no pizza. Out on the playground there were two merry-go-rounds, with a side walk down the middle of the playground, but no monkey bars or basketball court. They didn't have a school president either! When they got in trouble they got spanked. There were 19 kids in her 2nd grade class. She was here from 1959-1967. The grades were still from 1-12 until 1967. Mrs. Favourite would send the boys out of the room to talk to the girls on how to sit properly in dresses. Cathy was used as an example on how NOT to sit.



Justin Fink  
interviews  
Sally Wilson

Hello, my name is Justin Fink and I interviewed Mrs. Wilson. When Mrs. Wilson came here she was in 7th, 8th, and 9th grades. Her favorite teacher was Mrs. Walton. When anyone got in trouble they usually got sent to the principals office. There were two principals by the names of Mr. Warner and Mr. Fee. Mrs. Wilson had 4 or 5 friends in the school. The other building looked like the one now, but inside it was different. The cafeteria was in the basement and there was no fabric on the walls. The hallway to the other building connected to the janitor's room so everybody would have to walk through the janitor's room to get to the other building.

Mr. Fredrick



By Rachel Speer

Mrs. Hartman  
falls off her  
Stubborn donkey  
again.

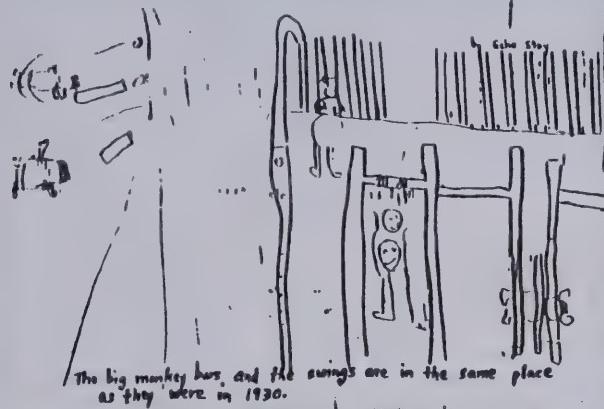
by: DJ Reed

Gloria Hartman

Gloria Hartman remembers donkey basketball and getting stuck with a very stubborn donkey. She kept falling off when the donkey put its head down. She lived back a muddy land and remembers going out on a date with Bob when she had to wear big boots and overalls to walk through the mud to meet him. Gloria chipped a tooth on her horn because the bleachers were so close to the basketball game and a ball hit her. She still remembers the old fire hall and how cold it was in the winter. Everyone respected Mr. Fredrick but he could get mad in a hurry. She got into trouble with him when she left school early to get the music teacher's corsage for the Christmas program.







Echo Stoy  
interviews  
Marge Butler

Marge Butler went to school at Ashley in 1930 and graduated in 1942. She said there were a lot of favorite teachers, but her most favorite was Mary Wolfe because she was interesting and friendly. Her favorite activity was music and gym. Some of the projects they did were, dissecting animals in Health and Science, and cooking a whole meal in Home Ec. When she went to school here the playground was a little different. The swing by the kickball field was in the same spot in 1930. The principal, Mr. Fredrick, didn't associate with the kids.

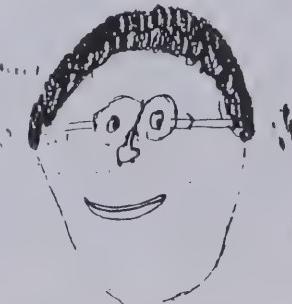
Danielle Curtis  
Interviews  
Karen Teegarden

Have you ever heard of a girl that graduated the last year at Ashley? Well I have, her name is Karen Teegarden. Her favorite teachers are Mary Wolfe and Meredith Bower. Her favorite subject was gym. She graduated in 1969 and started in 1956. She remembers it being a small school. You knew everybody from 1st grade to 12th grade. It was a very close-knit school. She also remembers that they had a good basketball team and Cross Country went to state and won.



By Rachel Speer

This was one of Karen's favorite teachers. By Danielle Curtis



Mrs. Mary Wolfe

Janet Walker

Janet Walker remembers getting paid around \$4.00 a month to work as an office girl. They didn't have a school secretary so senior girls helped Mr. Fredrick in the office. The Silver Moon was the favorite hang-out for kids. They liked to rollerskate a lot. One favorite field trip she took was a train trip to Chicago. They went to school only 8 months out of the year. If they had to make up any days they did it on Saturday because the teachers were farmers and didn't want to stay later in the spring.



Taylor Reed  
interviews  
Harold Reinoehl

Harold's favorite teacher was Joe Clark. The school was small then and you knew everyone. Harold graduated in 1933 from Ashley. He played in baseball and basketball during high school. The most embarrassing thing that ever happened to Harold was when four guys crawled into a tunnel in the furnace room with a flashlight to play cards. Mr. Fredrick caught them and there was only one way out--right at him! One other time he got into trouble by putting a match under the thermostat. The top blew off and he had to run up to Cox's and get a new one. In grade school he remembers Miss Taylor wearing her slippers to school. She asked him to run down to her house and fetch her shoes off the landing. He stopped to talk to Gonders on the way and got back late to class. In the early days they rode a hack wagon to school instead of a bus. It was cold in the winter, but there was a register in the center. They used to sit around and make popcorn over it on the way home. Harold's wife, Hilda, remembers how exciting it was to ride a bus for the first time when she went to high school.

Harold blew the  
top off a thermometer  
and had to get a new  
one

By  
Taylor Reed



Paul Everett was



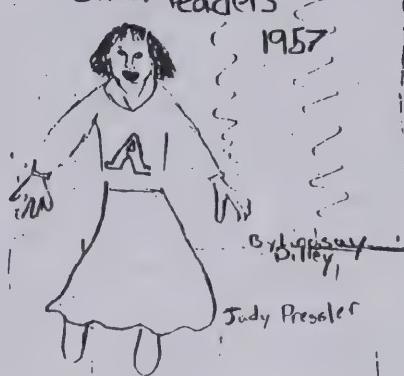
Joan's favorite teacher,  
by David Brand

Cheerleaders

1957

By Judy Pressler

Judy Pressler



David Brand  
interviews  
Joan Chavez

Hello every body, my name is David Brand and I interviewed Joan Chavez, my grandma. She went to Ashley School in 1949 and graduated in 1957. During that time the building was all old and the cafeteria was in the basement. The Assembly Hall was where the library is now and the Science lab was in the kindergarten room. Her favorite teacher was Paul Everett, for History. She had lead characters in plays and was a basketball cheerleader and was involved in band. They had to practice cheers in the halls because the gym was uptown at the fire hall. There school teams were not that good. One night at a ball game when she bent over to catch her baton the buttons on her twirling suit popped. For money they sold magazines so they could go on a class trip to Washington D.C. and to New York to Niagara Falls and to Canada. When you got in trouble you got sent to the principals office and sat for detention. Each class had "class night". When she was a senior, her class made a play about three witches. They wrote and directed it by themselves. She was valedictorian of her class.

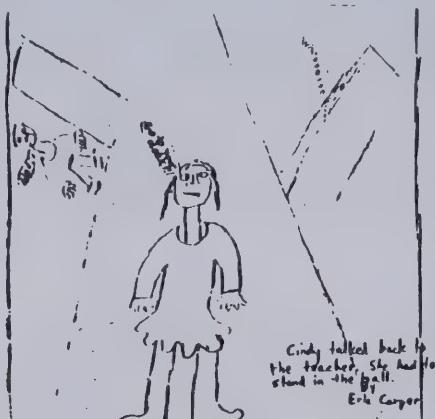


**Eric Carper  
Interviews  
Lawrence Firestone**

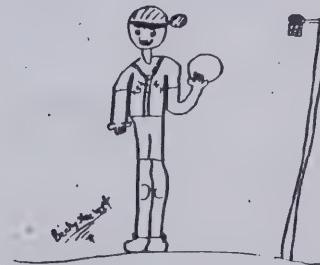
I interview Lawrence Firestone, my great grandfather. He graduated from Ashley School in 1943. His favorite teacher was Eva Taylor. His most memorable moment was their school play. He played the old man. Lawrence never got into trouble at school. He started school at Ashley in 1932.

**Natalie Gerardot  
Interviews  
Harlan Strite**

Harlan went to school in 1942 - 1952. His favorite teacher was Mr. Wade Libey because he liked him the best. His first room had little tables and chairs and a big black board. He only remembers going in 8th grade on a special project. For special events he went roller skating. The most embarrassing thing was when he lost the elastic on his sock. And most of all he hated to study and loved to goof around.



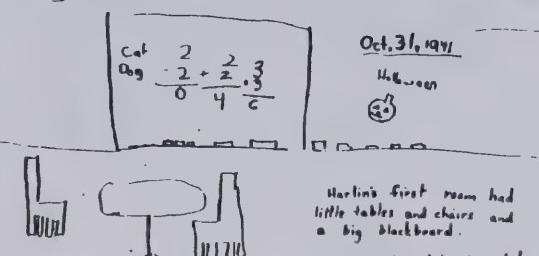
1953 Blackall  
Ashley Aces



Oct. 31, 1991

Halloween

Harlan's first room had  
little tables and chairs and  
a big blackboard.  
By Natalie Gerardot



**Eric Carper  
Interviews  
Cindy Carper**

Cindy remembers most about how grade school was when she was in first grade. They would go out for recess and when recess was over the big bell would ring. Sometimes the teacher would let the kids ring the bell. That bell now sits beside Mrs. Niehoff's room. Cindy's favorite teacher was Mrs. Christofer for 1st grade. She let them play a lot of games on the chalk board. She would read them a story every afternoon. Cindy's most embarrassing moment is when she had to stand out in the hall because she talked back to the teacher. The most trouble she got into at school was one day she and her girlfriend were walking home from school and they got into a fight with two other girls. The next day they had to go to the office and talk with Mr. Fee.



The high school kids had to help shovel snow.  
by Karen Bowers



Patrick Brannon  
Interviews  
Joan Meyers

Joan went to Ashley School for all 12 grades. All grades were in one school then. Fred Fredrick was the principal. Her favorite teacher was Mrs. Pearl Arney, all the kids called her Dollie. Mr. Bowers was the janitor. The high school kids had to help rake leaves and shovel snow. The playground had only swings and a merry-go-round. There were no school lunches. They ate in their classrooms. There was no cafeteria. There was no gym at the school so they had to go to the fire hall for gym. When she learned cursive writing in fourth grade, they had to write with a pen and bottles ink. She rode on the oldest bus, they called it the cheese box.



Shannon Buchs  
Interviews  
Bernard Buchs

Bernard went to school at Ashley from 1963 through 1971. His favorite teacher was Mrs. Favourite and his favorite subject was Spelling. Bernard's building was much like it is now, but there was an old part that was torn down. His room was little. He made book ends in intramural arts. If you got in trouble you had to go to the principal's office or sit in a corner. The most embarrassing moment was the school play. Bernard remembers the most about the girls from Fairfield. He read fictional books. Bernard said one of the field trips was to the zoo.

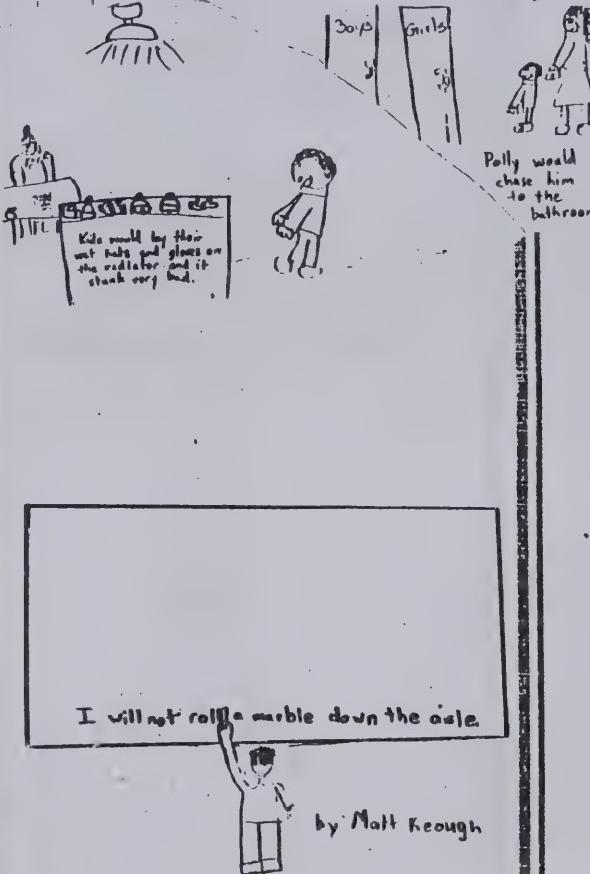
Bernard remembers the most about the girls from Fairfield. by Shannon Buchs



Matt Keough  
interviewed  
Bob Hartman

Bob Hartman went to school from 1947-1951. His favorite teacher was Mr. Libey. Their class took a field trip to Detroit to see the Tigers play. That was his favorite trip. He remembers that the old fire hall was so cold that when the coach sat them down on the bench to talk, steam would rise off their shoulders. They didn't like to take showers down in the "dungeon" because it was so cold. The ceiling was kind of low so you didn't arch your shots much. Bob never got into a fight. If they got into trouble they had to write a lot of sentences out of the encyclopedia. He remembers that someone would sometimes roll a marble down the wooden aisles during Assembly, but everybody acted like they were studying hard so they wouldn't get blamed. He will always remember how the whole school went together to the Good Friday Services. They would all walk down the street to a church in town.

Roger Dilley  
by Lindsay Dilley



Lindsay Dilley  
Interviews  
Roger Dilley

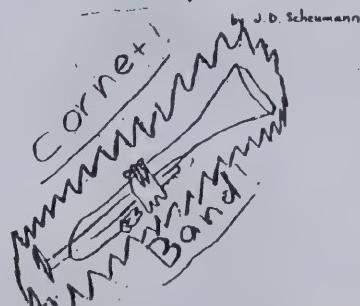
Roger Dilley went to Ashley School in 1967-1974. The school had wood floors that creaked and the doors squeaked when you opened or shut them. Roger said that he went on many field trips and said he went to the circus, Sweeny Museum, hiking in the woods, and he went to Chicago. The playground was the same except on more merry-go-rounds. When he was in 3rd grade they got the big monkey bars. A special project they did was just like ours! They did an election thing. They also did a poll. When they got in trouble they got detention for recess. The most embarrassing thing was when he was teasing a girl three times bigger than him and got chased to the boys bathroom. Her name was Polly and he kept saying, "Polly wants a cracker." The thing he remembers the most is in the winter kids laid gloves and boots on the radiator and it stunk so bad he almost got sick. They had 4 recesses and they got out at 2:45.



Steve Bennett  
Interviews  
Rosemary Bender

I interviewed Mrs. Rosemary Bender. She went to Ashley from 1942 until 1954. The only special thing she did was band. She thought it was a very nice school. When Rosemary was in grade school her third grade teacher, Opal Bowman, taught her how to knit at recess time. She still knits and has the wooden needles her father whittled for her when she was little. Rosemary also remembers saving aluminum paper off of gum wrappers and milkweed pod fluff for the war effort. They got paid for bringing it to school. In high school she remembers going down in the basement to listen to the world series on the radio. She also was a lookout for some boys who wrote their graduation date on the chimney. She said that kids who got caught for being in trouble had to go down to the furnace room and get spanked. The most embarrassing thing was in first grade when she thought she knew how to make an 8, but instead when she went to the black board she made two circles.

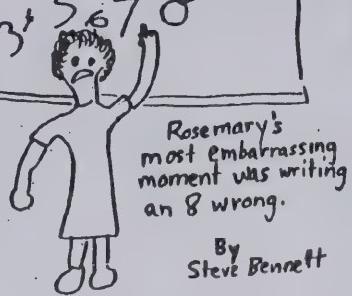
Kim played the coronet in  
Band!



B-TEAM BASKETBALL



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8



By  
Steve Bennett

J D Scheumann  
Interviews  
Kim Nusbaum

In 1971, when Kim Nusbaum was in the sixth grade, Ashley School still had sixth, seventh and eighth grade, instead of just K-5. She played the coronet in band. Mrs. Carper was the band teacher. Mrs. Shaffer was her favorite teacher because she put on a play and made her the queen. They also did a play called Hamlet. She was supposed to die in the play, instead of dying she started to laugh. It didn't end the way it was practiced! Her most embarrassing moment was when in the seventh grade another person danced with her boyfriend. He started liking her friend instead of her. In the seventh grade that was a major embarrassment.



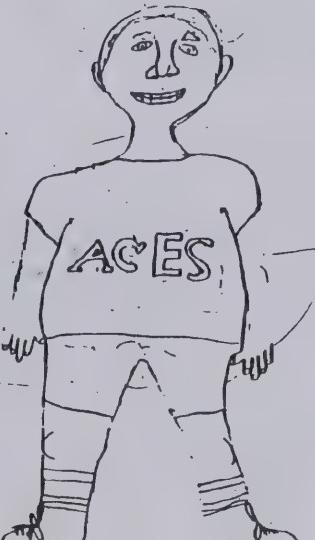
Tom Miller  
interviews  
Jim Miller

My dad went to 8th grade at Ashley. After eighth grade the students went to DeKalb. Ashley was small with 30 kids per class. The school had a very big playground. My dad played marbles. The way they played is they each had ten marbles. They made a hole beside the school. They threw the marbles in the hole. Whoever got the most in won the other kids marbles. When you got in big trouble the principal gave you a spankin' with a wooden paddle. In 1963, while my dad was still at Ashley, they won the state cross country title.

Jim Miller played marbles at recess time.



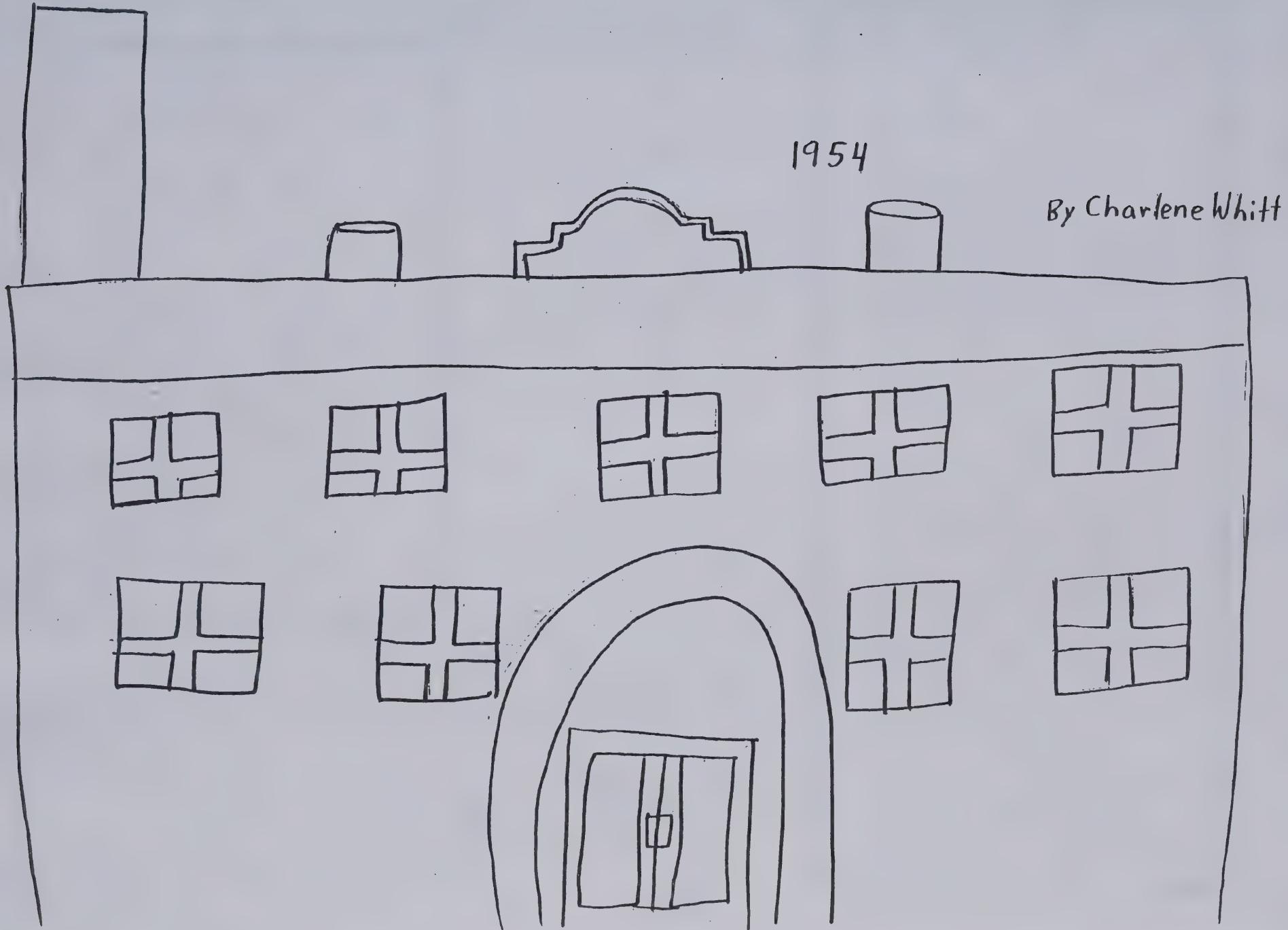
1950



Chris Wilhelm  
interviews  
Carole Wilhelm

Carole Wilhelm went to Ashley School from 1949 to 1954. There were 12 girls and 12 boys in her graduating class. Her favorite teacher was Dollie Arney. Mrs. Arney was an Art, English, and library teacher. She also instructed piano. One time the class was to be diagraming sentences, but they were not doing well. Mrs. Arney took the class to the Assembly where the kids had to sit in the fifth grade class. The fifth grade kids looked through the windows while the class sat in the little seats. Her History and Government teacher, Paul Everett, gave the kids a letter of recommendation for after high school instead of a grade. The whole class cried. The senior class had "fun night". They put on a program for the whole school. They would tell what they thought each graduate's future would be. They hoped one girl would have lots of little "fenders" since she was dating a guy named Fender! When Carole was a sophomore she had to scrape soap off the school windows with a razor blade, since her and some friends had soaped the windows!



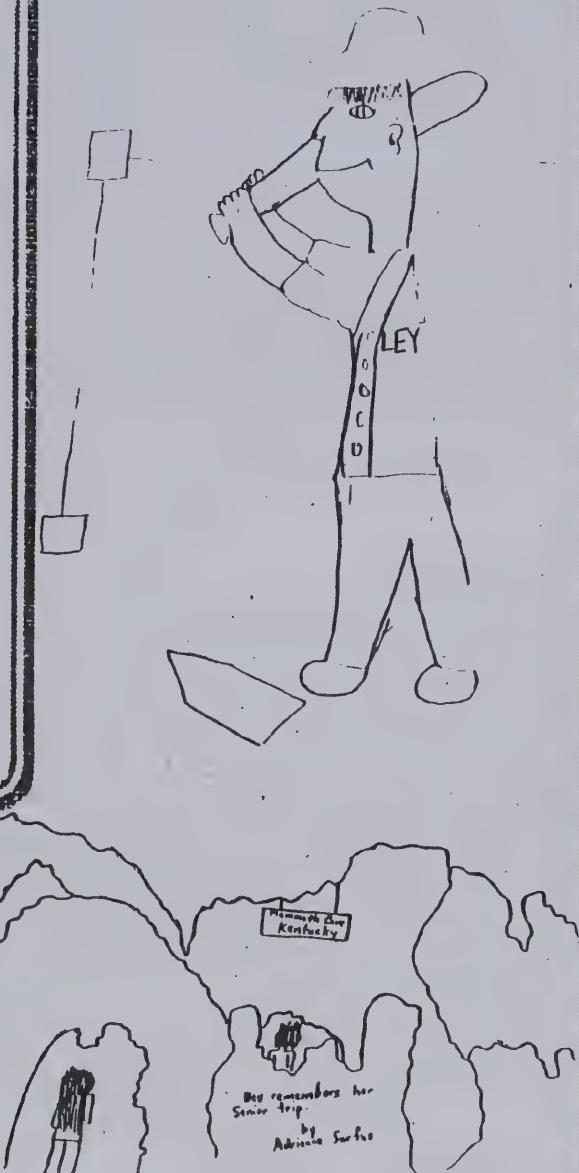




D.J. Reed  
interviews  
Billy McDonald

Hello, my name is D.J. Reed and I interviewed Billy McDonald. Billy's favorite teacher was Mrs. Black. She was the first grade teacher. The school was big. It looked a little like it does now. He wished he never got in trouble because if he did he would get a whippin' or get detention. The most embarrassing thing was when he stuck his tongue on the merry-go-round in the winter. The thing he remembered the most was when he played ball. He just loved playing ball. He took field trips his favorite place to go was to the Chicago Museums. He was there from 1964 - 1971.

Billy loved playing ball.  
by D.J. Reed



Adrienne Surfus  
Interviews  
Bev Farver

I graduated from Ashley High School in the year 1953. I attended Fairfield for grade school. It was a tradition for the graduates to write their initials on the chimney. The year I graduated there were no girl names because the boys hid the ladder after they signed it. Seniors took a trip to Mammoth Caves in Kentucky. We spent several days. I did not have a scholarship, and did not go on to college. I rode the bus to school. Only grade school had recess. The playground looks about the same as now, so does the school. We had about 26 to 35 kids per class. We did no special projects other than what we did in art class. Programs were held on the second floor where the music and work rooms are today. I was in the school choir. For gym class we went to what is now the fire hall. If you broke the rules, you were sent to the principal's office for a talking to. Once, when I broke a window, I had to go tell the principal. His name was Mr. Fred Fredrick. He was a mean ol' man.

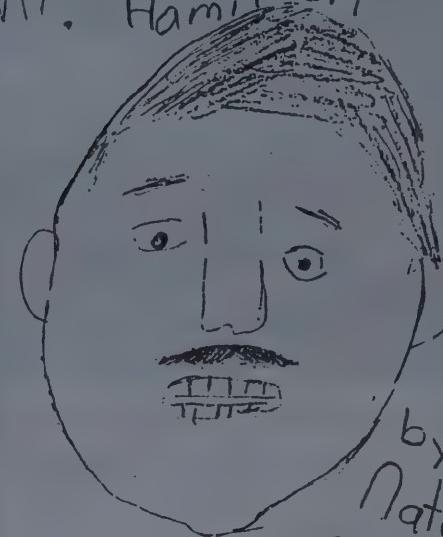


Mr. Fredrick



By Rachel  
Speer

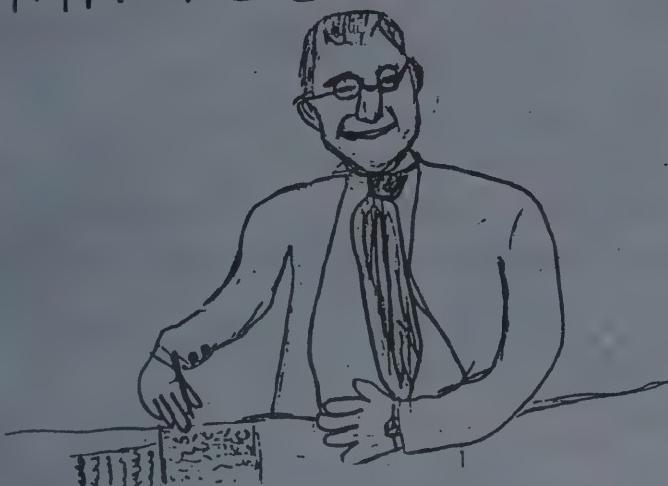
Mr. Hamilton



by  
Natalie  
Gerardot

Mr. Fee

by Justin Tink



Miss Susie Miller

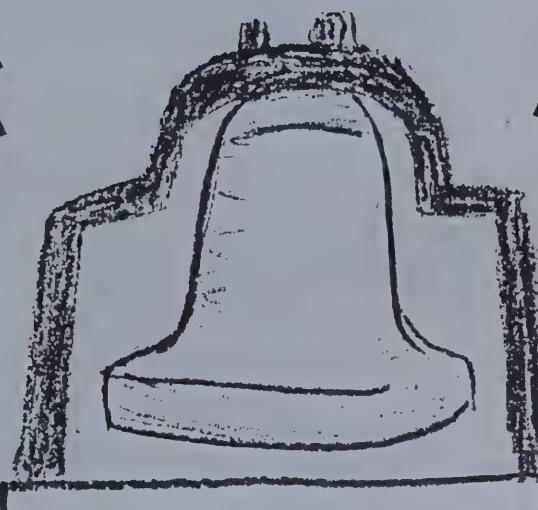
B  
Echo  
Stay



1995

Calendar

Ashley  
Elementary



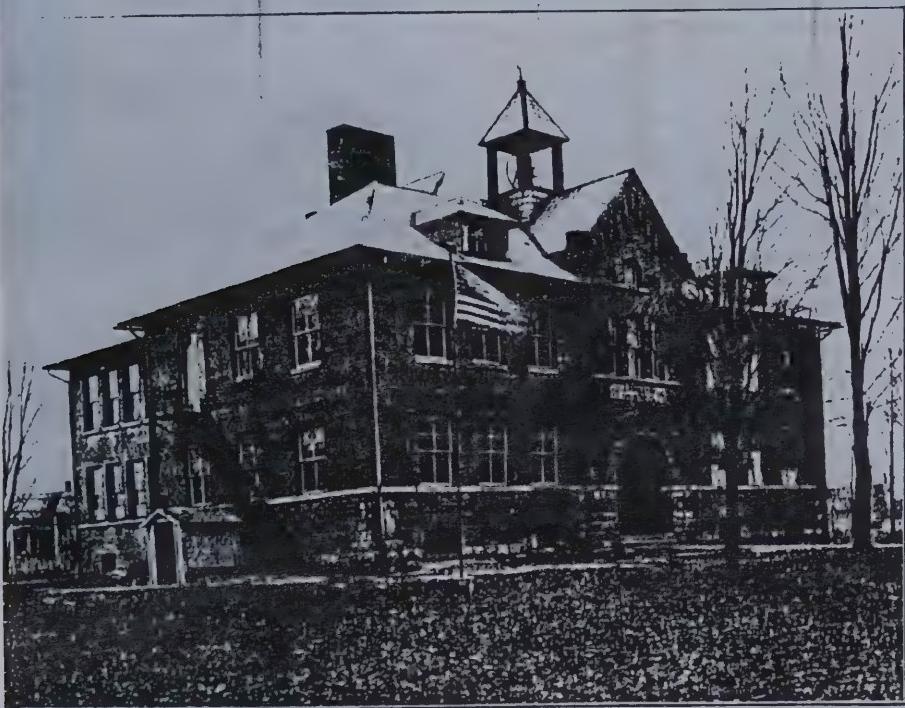
~ASHLEY~  
PUBLIC SCHOOL 93

18



In December of 1892 the first school in Ashley, IN was completed. It was a red brick, two story building with 6 classrooms and an outhouse.

## HISTORY OF ASHLEY SCHOOL



In 1929 a new high school building was connected to the original building. It had a large assembly room, library, five classrooms, restrooms, and an office. Gym classes and sports were held at the fire hall downtown.

The last graduating class was in 1967. After that year high school students attended DeKalb High School.

Additional classrooms were needed over the years and so another building was connected by a walkway in 1956. The new wing included five classrooms, a gymnasium - auditorium, locker rooms, and restrooms.



In 1975 the original building was torn down and the remaining buildings were remodeled.

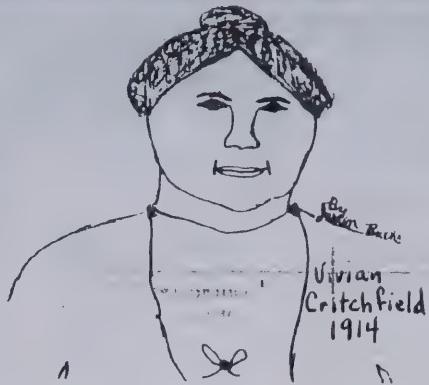




Illustrated  
by Justin Bucks



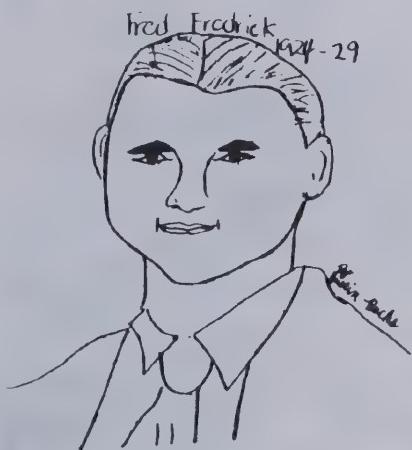
Marie Thrush 1913



Vivian  
Critchfield  
1914

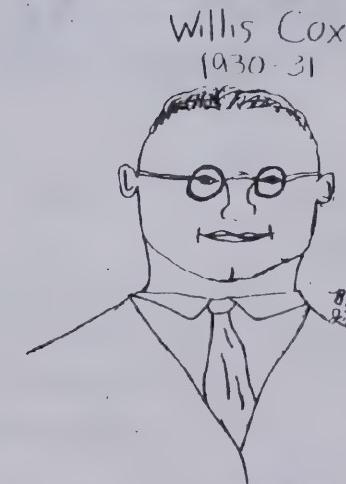


Susie  
Miller  
1917



Fred Fredrick  
1924-29

Ashley Principals since 1903	
Mrs. Dessa Duncan	1924 - 1929
Miss Roxana J. Johnson	1930 - 1931
Miss Lalah Ruth Randle	1932 - 1963
Miss D. Cashie Estabrook	1964 - 1965
Miss Marie Thrush	1966 - 1985
Miss Vivian Critchfield	1986 -
Miss Susie Miller	
Mr. Fred Fredrick	
Mr. Willis Cox	
Mr. Fred Fredrick	
Mr. Clifton D. Warner	
Mr. Leland R. Fee	
Mr. Bruce Hamilton	



Willis Cox  
1930-31



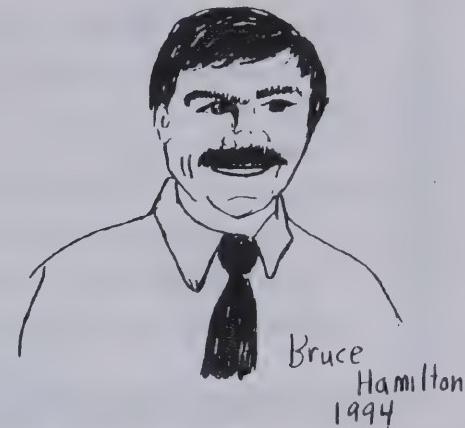
Fred Fredrick 1932-63



Clifton  
Warner  
1965



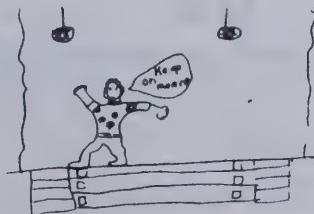
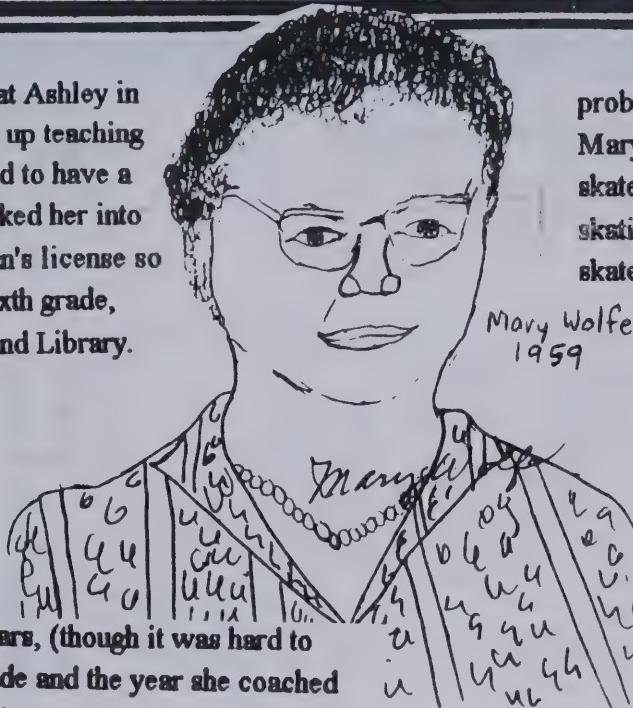
Leland  
Fee  
1967



Bruce  
Hamilton  
1994

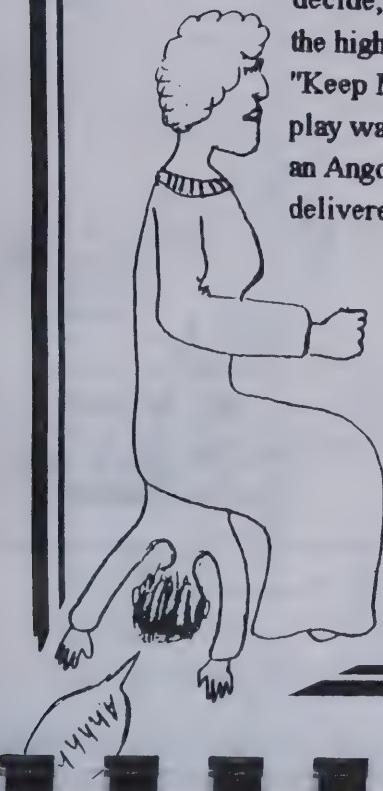


Mary Wolfe first came to teach at Ashley in 1938 in a part time position. She ended up teaching 30 years. In 1940 schools were required to have a licensed librarian and Mr. Fredrick talked her into taking college classes to get her librarian's license so she could teach full-time. She taught sixth grade, Phys. Ed at the old town hall, English, and Library.

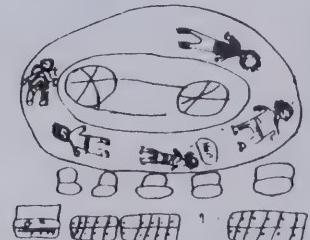
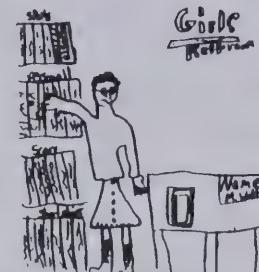


Her favorite years, (though it was hard to decide,) were sixth grade and the year she coached the high school play. The play was a comedy called, "Keep Moving." She couldn't remember what the play was about, but she remembered that for the sets an Angola Furniture Store loaned them new furniture, delivered it, and charged \$1.

Mary never had to paddle anyone, but one kid got into trouble and she made him stay after school. He didn't listen to her and he marched right out the door. She grabbed him and he thought she ripped his shirt, but she didn't think she did. Back then the kind of thing that kids were sent to the office for was talking after the bell rang. She can remember only one class that had a few rowdy boys and she said she had to sit on them now and then.



If you went to class parties back then you'd probably be at the skating rink . . . and you would see Mary Wolfe skating with the kids. She loved to skate! The class made money by selling tickets to skating parties. Maybe kids bought them to see Mary skate!



MRS MARY WOLFE 1955



For a time she was librarian for Ashley in the morning and went to Waterloo in the afternoon. She never liked that as well because she didn't get to know the kids as well. She loved being in the classroom the best.

Since retiring, Mary and her husband, who is a carpenter, built their daughter a house near New Castle. She has stayed busy with Women's Society, Sunday school, and church activities. What she misses most about Ashley School is being around the kids and her association with the other teachers. "So many of the teachers I taught with have died. That is sad," she commented. "My years at Ashley were very, very enjoyable."

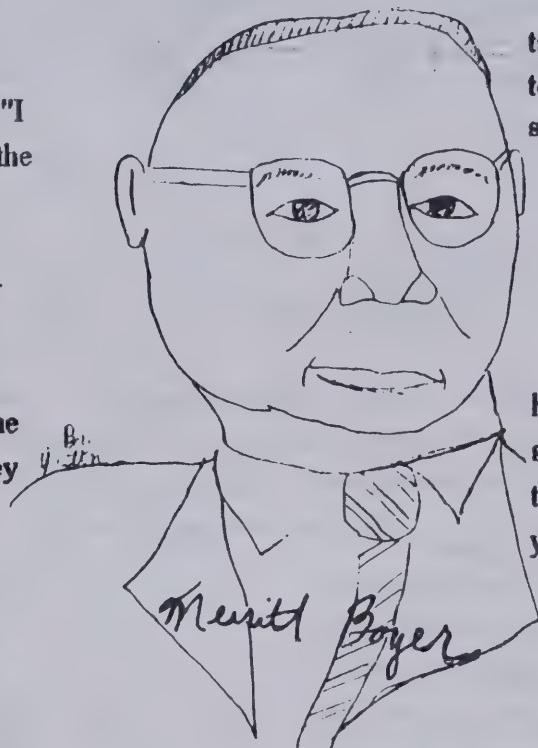


Merritt Boyer remembers students and incidents from his teaching years just like it was yesterday. His love of teaching must have been strong because he came back to it even though his beginning salary was only \$800 a year. He joked, "I got a raise the second year. It was \$810. And then the third year I finally got the really big raise--\$825!" He did quit for a few years after that to do civil service work with parolees and to serve in counter intelligence operations in WWII. After the war he worked for the V.A. in training vets. He worked through Tri-State for 13 years in that job. Finally he got back to teaching and it turned out to be at Ashley. He loved working there! He taught English and Latin.

His most enjoyable teaching was a second year Latin class. They had no classroom; in fact, they sat in the hall around a U-shaped table. Lawrence Richter always knew the right answer. Merritt always marveled at that boy--what a brain he was!

How did Merritt handle discipline? "Kids were all different, but they were all wonderful. As their teacher you had to figure out what they all needed," he commented. He said some were bold and needed to be recognized. If you didn't satisfy that they'd be into mischief. Other youngsters would just be the opposite. You had to kind of bring them up, put 'em out in the front for their benefit.

#### Interview with Merritt Boyer



Merritt  
Boyer  
1967

"Kids weren't any different the last year I taught than when I went to school. Yes, they're going to do some things but you have to outguess them," he said with a chuckle.

Many former students have returned to tell him thanks for what he did for them in school. He said that those comments are the real payoff in teaching. "I never had years more enjoyable than my years at Ashley. I enjoyed every day I taught there."



He said he never spanked any of them, but he did have two boys paddled one day. It seems that he left Cathy Hinman in charge of the class one day for 10 minutes and two boys, Bill and Dave, acted up. When he found out what had happened, he handed Dave a paddle and told him to give Bill what he deserved for the way Bill misbehaved. After Dave let Bill have two hard whacks, Merritt gave Bill the opportunity to do the same. He said the boys got the message that they'd better listen to whomever was in charge!



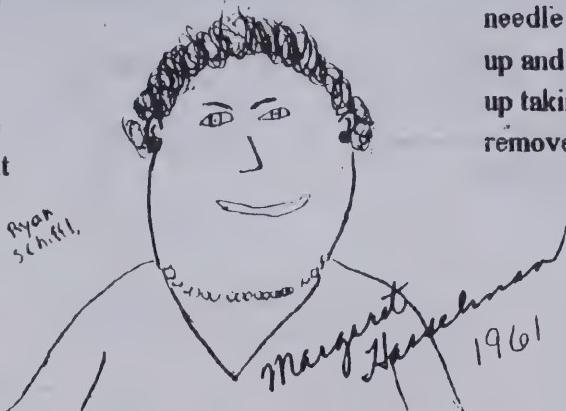
Margaret taught 30 years altogether. She took some years out to raise 3 sons, but she was here long enough to have two third generation students. "Of the places I taught Ashley was my favorite. I have a very warm spot in my heart for everyone here because the parents were always so supportive and it was just a really good community to live in," she said.

Margaret taught home ec. They started out with the old kerosene stove and she stayed many nights after school cleaning and trimming the wicks. When she first taught there was no cafeteria and the home ec girls used to sell hot dogs and hot chocolate to anyone who didn't pack their lunches.



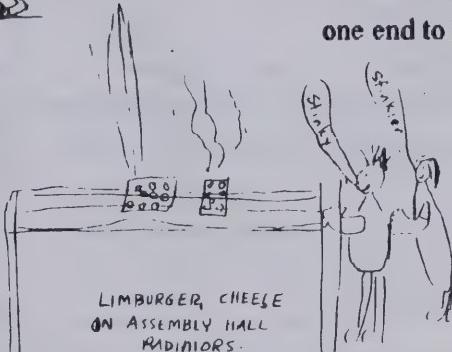
She really enjoyed the kids. She remembers two boys who were to bring a chair with wheels up from Mr. Fredrick's office to her class. They came up behind her with the chair and pushed her all the way down the hall. She laughed, "They really thought they were getting away with something!" She also remembered the time some boys slipped some Limburger cheese on the hot radiator in the Assembly hall. Boy, did that stink!

### Interview with Margaret Hasselman



She enjoyed FHA. Most of the girls belonged to this homemakers club. They would take summer trips to college campuses and had lots of activities during the school year.

Margaret had one memorable year when she had 40 girls and 11 sewing machines. She tried to keep half the class busy with embroidery. They were at the other end of a large room. She felt like she needed roller skates to go back and forth from one end to the other.



LIMBURGER CHEESE ON ASSEMBLY HALL RADIATORS.

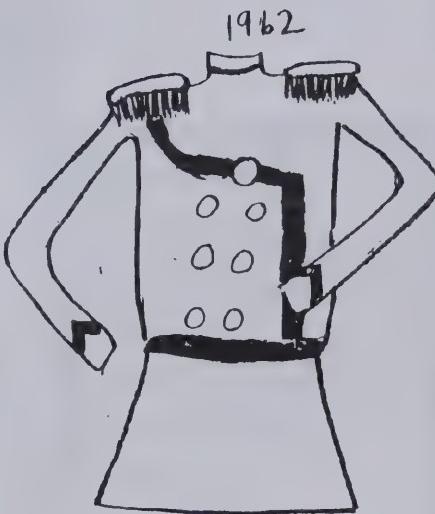
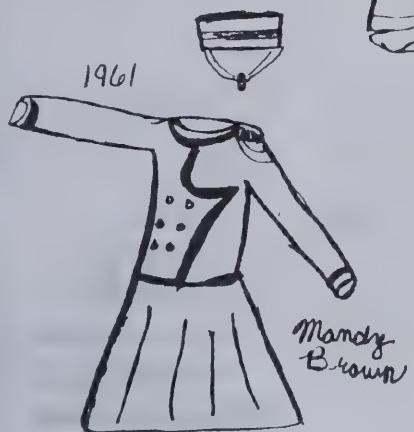
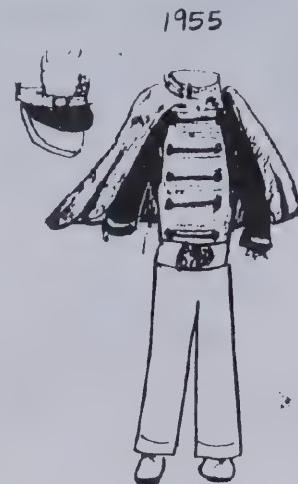
In class one day, a girl named Grace ran a needle through her finger. Mr. Fredrick was called up and he tried to get it out with a pliers. He ended up taking her to the doctor in town to have it removed.



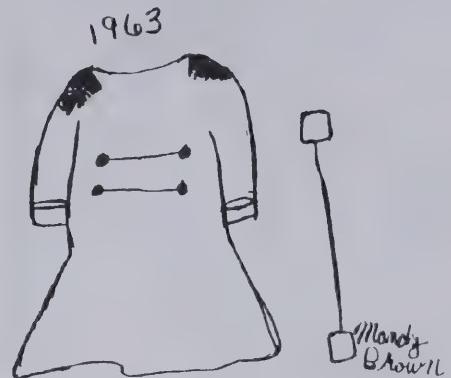
During the war, Margaret's home ec girls made cookies and sent a box to the servicemen from DeKalb County wherever they were stationed.

Since retiring, Margaret has been busier than when she taught. In fact, she wonders how she had time to teach. She babysits for her four grandchildren and is active in her church. She sees lots of her former students whenever she is out around town.





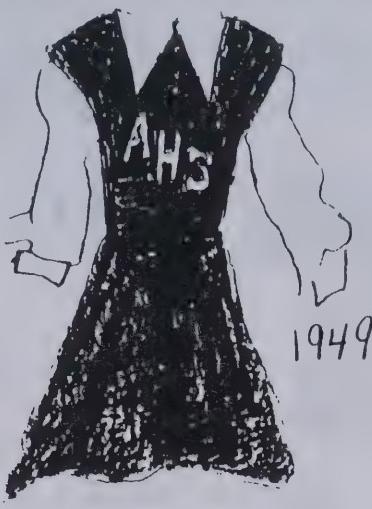
Randy Miller







Ram, Bam, Bogen, Nater,  
Half Past Alligator  
Rip saw, Buck saw, Chickery Daw  
Juniors! Juniors!  
Rah! Rah! Rah!



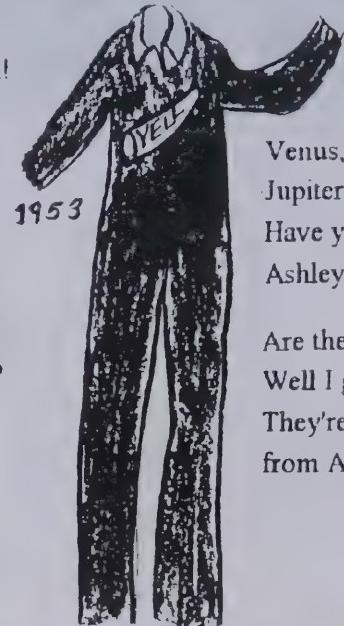
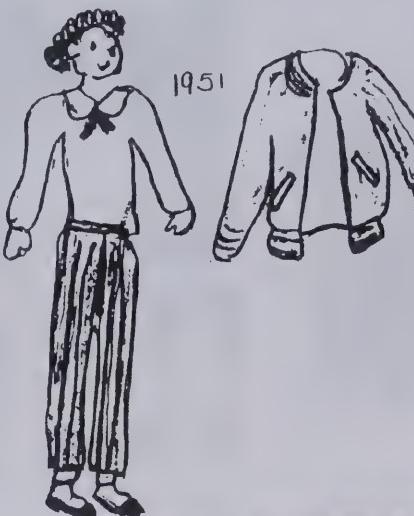
Chickery chax, Dickery dax,  
Kale kazoo, kazoo, kazax,  
Dickery wow, flickery fow,  
Sophomores! Sophomores!  
Wow! Wow! Wow!



Oxis, Oxis, polly wolly woxis.  
Wahoo, Wahoo, Wah,  
Rack-Stick-a-Boom, Rack Stick-a- Boom  
Rack-stick-a- Rack-Stick-a  
Boom, Boom, Boom,  
Riff, Raff, Rue,  
Gold and Blue,  
Freshmen!

Dickery, Dickery, dax,

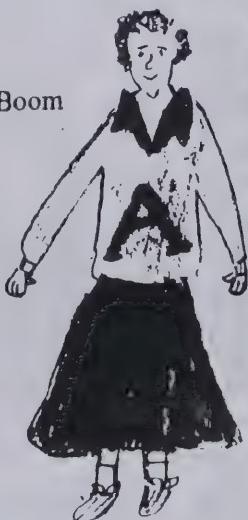
We're the class of seventeen.  
Zis Boom! Zis Boom! Zis Boom! Bah!  
Seniors! Seniors!  
Rah! Rah! Rah!



Venus, Saturn,  
Jupiter, Mars,  
Have you seen those  
Ashley Stars?

Are they stars,  
Well I guess,  
They're the Stars  
from A H S!

1958



Come on Aces,  
Come on Aces,  
Go right down the floor!  
Put the ball right through  
the basket  
Make for us a score,  
Rah! Rah! Rah!  
Come on Aces,  
Come on Aces,  
For the Red and Blue!  
We're the team from Ashley  
We're all for you!



Hope Neely





1917



1924  
Marjorie Kinder



1924



1948



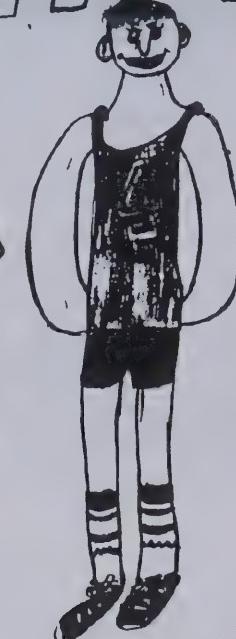
1950



1951



1952



1953



1955



1956  
Junior High



1958



1960



J.W.D.R.N.C.R

1961





### Interview with Dorothea Shoudel

Dorothy graduated in 1927. Her class only had 21 seniors in it. Her favorite teacher was Lloyd Miller. He gave good advice that she's always remembered. "Always try to do right. Never try to do wrong." He reminded them that even presidents and vice presidents go into office thinking they will do what is right, but they end up getting changed.

When she was very young the hack was pulled by horses, but by the time she graduated from Ashley the hack was motorized. She only went her senior year at Ashley but has lots of good memories. Dorothea won 3 prizes for her sewing in HomeEc and she still has the shears that she won.



Favorite recess games were Andy Over, which was a game where a ball was thrown over the school house and caught by the other team, and in the winter they played Fox and Goose, which was a tag game played in circles in the snow.

### Interview with Rhonda Myers Egly

by Josh Wolfe

Rhonda graduated in the class of 1964. Her favorite teachers were Mary Wolfe, Loretta Gfeller, Dolly Arney, and Opal Bowman. She remembers those teachers as being very kind, understanding, and fair. Fred Fredricks was the principal. He saw her acting up one day and came in the room and stood by her until she settled down.

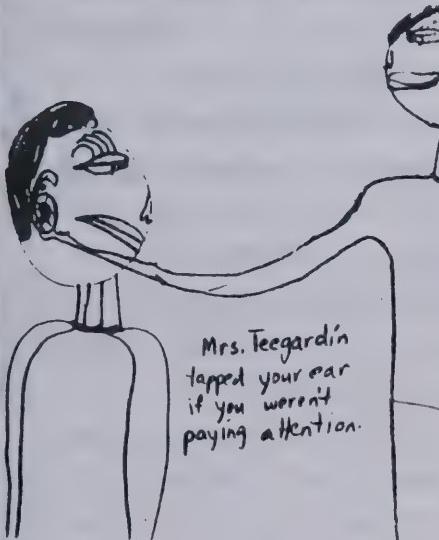


Back then there was freshman initiation which was usually pretty embarrassing for the freshmen students. The discipline problems were mostly for things like throwing spitwads, cheating off of other people's papers, and running in the halls. The most dangerous things were after school hours when some kids fought with gangs of kids from other schools.

Rhonda also remembers taking field trips to Pokagon, Fort Wayne water plant, and Toledo Zoo.



Iris graduated in 1940 in a class of 29 kids. In grade school she remembered Miss Corbin (who became Mrs. Teegardin after she got married.) She was a good teacher, but very strict. Iris remembers getting tapped on the ear for not paying attention.



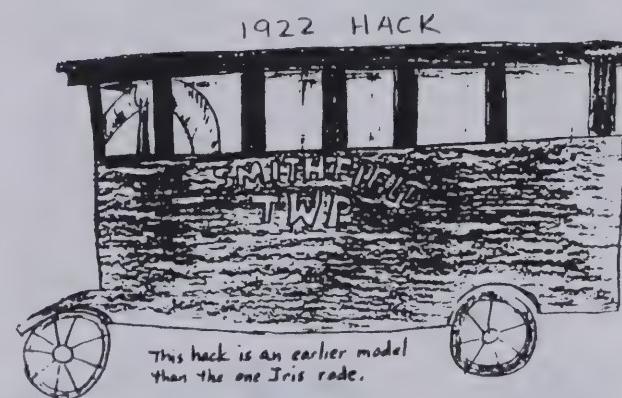
### Interview with Iris Thomas

Nobody got spanked unless they were really, really bad. No one wanted to because they all heard that Mr. Fredrick had a spanking machine in his office. At least that's what they all believed. Actually, all he had to do was walk by the room and if he saw someone acting up he would walk right in and take care of it.



She especially liked Miss Helen Ellert, who was very kind to her family. When Iris's sister was sick, Miss Ellert brought lessons to their home for a long time.

Iris remembers riding in the hack. It was the earlier school bus that was long and narrow. the benches faced each other and then there was one in the middle.

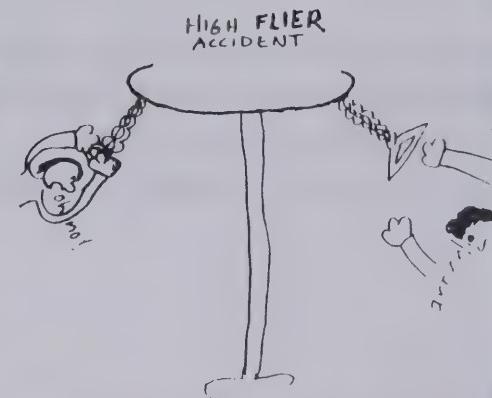


The big blizzard in 1936 stood out in Iris's memory. They were off school for two weeks. The drifts were so hard that the kids could walk on top of the snow with no trouble.

Iris still has a beautiful embroidered wall hanging that she made in home ec. It looks as nice today as it did back then.

The juniors and seniors did not have proms back then. They had banquets. They would go to a nice restaurant and then to a show.

Iris remembers a favorite playground toy. It was called the high flier. Kids would hang on to a bar attached to a chain and spin around. Once a girl flew off and was hurt badly. They didn't know if she would live.





by Randy Miller

Kenny Rakestraw went to Ashley School from 1949-1961. He remembers Mrs. Bowman, Mrs. Nugen, and Mr. Cook the most. They were nice teachers.

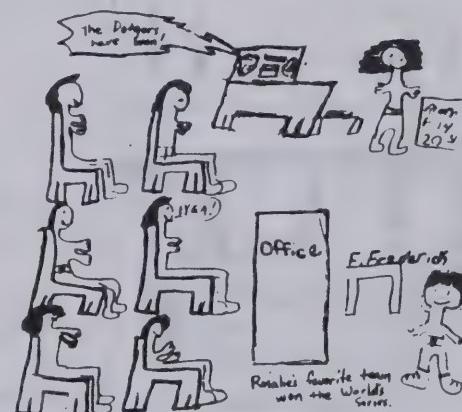
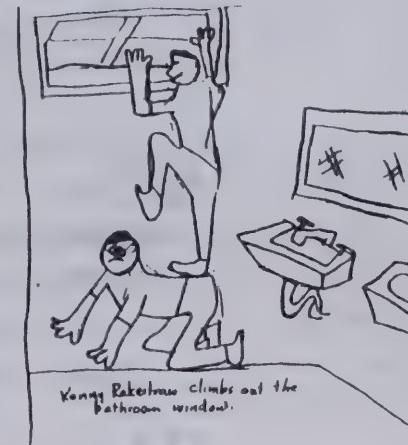
He never got a spanking at school, but he came close sometimes. Once he was out at recess in first grade and was jumping in a mudpuddle. He got sent into the principal's office. Luckily, Mr. Fredrick wasn't there so he just went back to class.

Kenny played basketball and baseball and track. They had to run up to the town hall to go to gym. Out at recess in elementary school, they would play red-rover, baseball, and kickball.

In high school he and his friends sometimes would sneak out of school. They would go to the restroom and climb out of the window. The most dangerous thing they did was to go up to Hudson corner and drag race to the limits.

They used to go to sockhops and drive in movies. They also went roller skating. He had a sweetheart named Betty.

Field trips were taken to the Toledo Zoo (and they took a train), the Ft. Wayne Holsom Bakery, and to the Coca Cola factory.



Interview with Rosalie Bowerman  
by Jessica Hardison

Rosalie Bowerman graduated in 1959. She remembers Miss Gfeller, Mr. Everitts, and Harold and Dolly Arney the most. She recalled how they liked young people and knew how to get them to learn.

The kids were really close to each other at Ashley, and sometimes it was hard to make friends when you moved here from another school. Rosalie was new in 5th grade, but eventually it all got worked out.

Rosalie remembers Mr. Everitts letting the class listen to the final game of the World Series one time when the Brooklyn Dodgers (her favorite team) won!

She enjoyed playing co-ed softball at recess time. There were no organized sports for girls at the time. There weren't many dances. The kids either went to the movies, ball games, or roller skating.



## Interview with Beverly McDowell

by Skyler Davidson

Beverly McDowell has good memories of her third grade teacher, Opal Bowman. Mrs. Bowman taught her students how to knit.

She remembers the old merry-go-round on the playground because playing on that was how she busted her leg.

The orneriest thing she did was to throw spitwads at her friends and sometimes even the teacher.



## HISTORY CLASS



## Interview with James Schiffli

by Randy Miller

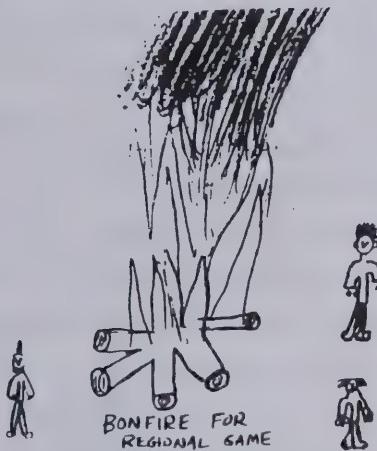
James went to school at Ashley from 1955 - 1967. He liked Mrs. Bowman in 3rd grade, Mr. Cook in 7th, and Mr. Boyer in 8th grade. What he remembers most about them is that they never stopped yelling at him.

He remembers how the boys played marbles at recess time. They used to go inside of a tree and play. They also used to play pump-pump-pull away.

In high school his class never got to paint the chimney because they were horsing around and broke a window. He never tried playing hooky because he knew he would be punished by his dad.



Carolyn attended Ashley all twelve years. She graduated in 1965 in a class of 42 kids. She had a great Senior year! The class took an 8 day trip to Washington, D.C., Gettysburg, and New York City. She remembers such good school spirit. Everyone would go to the ball games and sit in the pep square. When they went to the Regionals, there was a huge bon fire pep rally outside of the school.

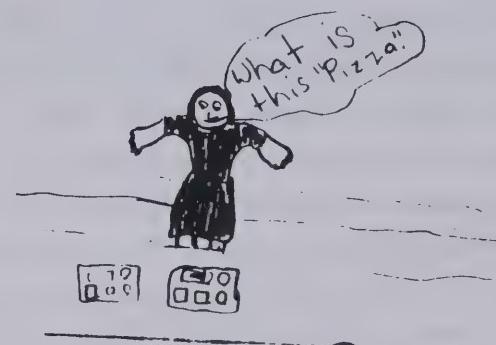


Carolyn remembered Paul Cook's classes, especially. She was kind of the teacher's pet and got into a disagreement with other kids because of it. She got upset and left school to walk 6 miles home without telling anyone. Her mom brought her back and they got it all worked out, but Mr. Cook acted like he was paddling her for worrying everyone.

### Interview with Carolyn Brown

Carolyn remembers eating in the cafeteria down in the basement. They served pizza sometimes, but no one knew what it was and they didn't want to try it. She thought it was so neat to get rich, chocolate milk at school because she never got it at home. Even today if she wants to remember the old days, she makes a bologna sandwich and drinks chocolate milk.

She loved sock hops! The gym was new so they had to dance in their socks. She said the boys didn't dance back then.



Fourth grade in Mrs. Teegardins class was really different back then. Nobody got out of their seat and you didn't talk at all! Mrs. T. was a disciplinarian--she didn't take any guff!!

The big bell had a deep, soothing sound. Kids would gather around the janitor when he pulled the rope. At recess there weren't any teachers watching the kids. They just went out and played until the bell rang.



### Interview with Carl Dilley

by Beth Dilley

Carl Dilley graduated in 1951 and he went to Ashley all twelve years. His favorite teachers were Wade Libey and Paul Everitts. Mr. Libey took his class to Canada one year. In Mr. Everitts class Carl often knew the answers the fastest, but he remembered getting mean looks from the other kids when he did.

Carl's principal was Mr. Fredrick. The kids were scared of him because he would remind them now and then that he had a paddle in the furnace room. Carl was never paddled, but he was teasing a girl and his English teacher whacked him over the head with a handkerchief. The other kids thought that she was killing him.

Carl remembers sneaking out of school once to help his father on the farm, but he never got caught. The most dangerous thing that he did with his friends was to race up and down the streets in their cars.

Sometimes there were snow days, but it wasn't announced over the radio and they had no TV's. If the bus didn't show up, they didn't go to school. The school year started in September and it ended in April when he went to school.



### Interview with Dan Gaetz

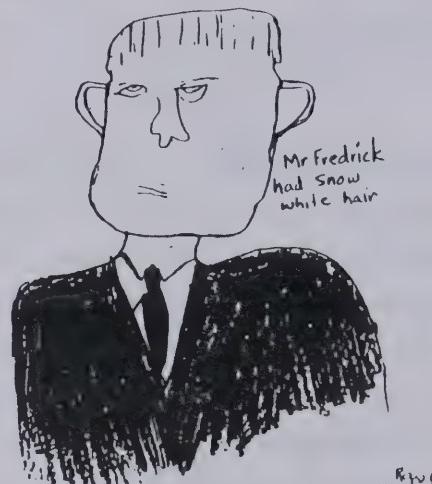
by Jeremy Fink

The teacher Dan remembers most was Paul Cook in 7th grade. He was the best story teller Dan had ever heard. Paul used to tell stories about the old west.

The principal for all twelve years was Mr. Frederick. What Dan remembers most about him was his snow white hair.

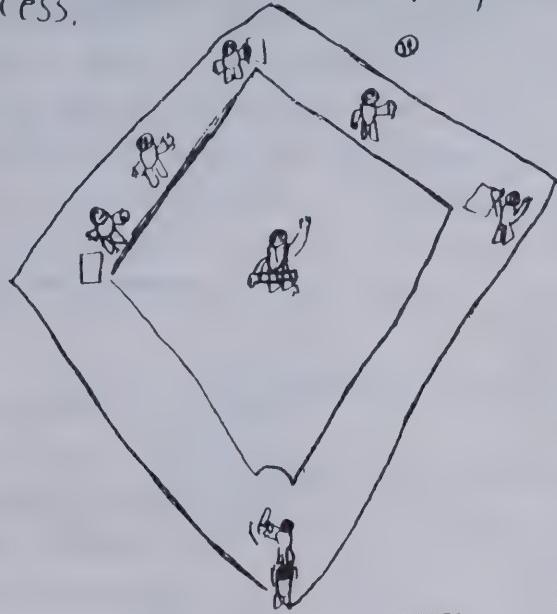
Dan never got spanked, he just got his hands slapped a couple of times. He skipped school once but got caught. His mom grounded him for a month!

At recess time he loved to play ping pong, and he still does today. The sports Dan played were basketball and track. He had a couple of girl friends and remembers the sock hops in the gym. If they went on a date, they would just drive around.





LARRY Schiffli loved playing basketball at recess.

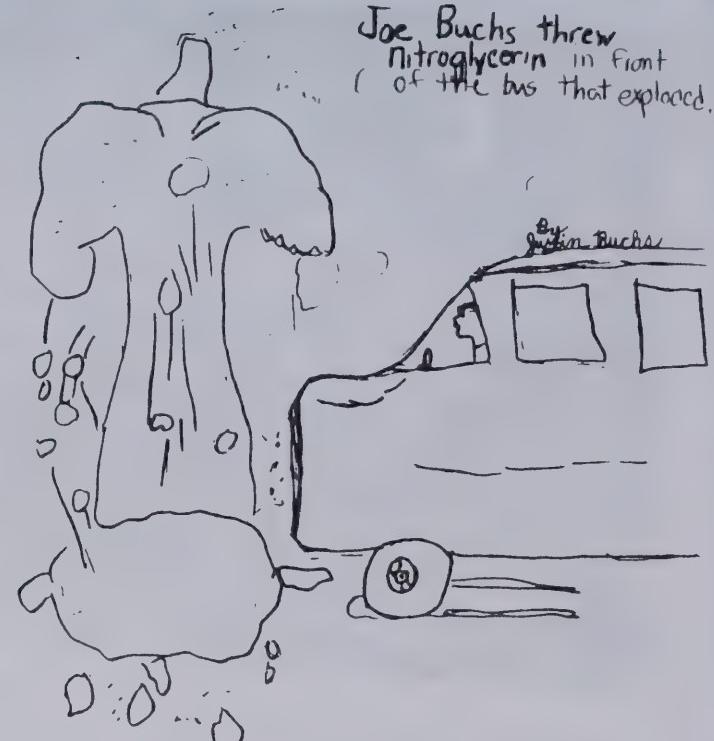
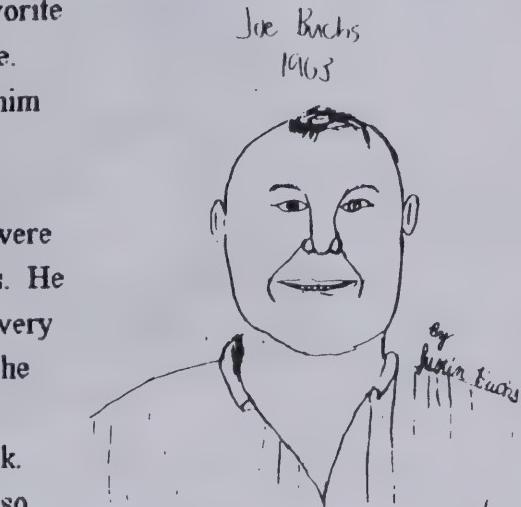


Interview with Larry Schiffli  
by Ryan Schiffli

Larry Schiffli graduated from Ashley High School in 1966 after attending 12 years. His favorite teachers were Opal Bowman and Mrs. Favourite. What he liked most about them is that they read him stories.

Now and then he was punished for misconduct and he remembers his punishments were staying after school, or washing the blackboards. He played hooky a couple of times. If he had been very bad he would have gotten spanked. But he said he never got a spanking in school.

Larry participated in basketball and track. They won a trophy in the Fremont relays. He also liked to play baseball and football.



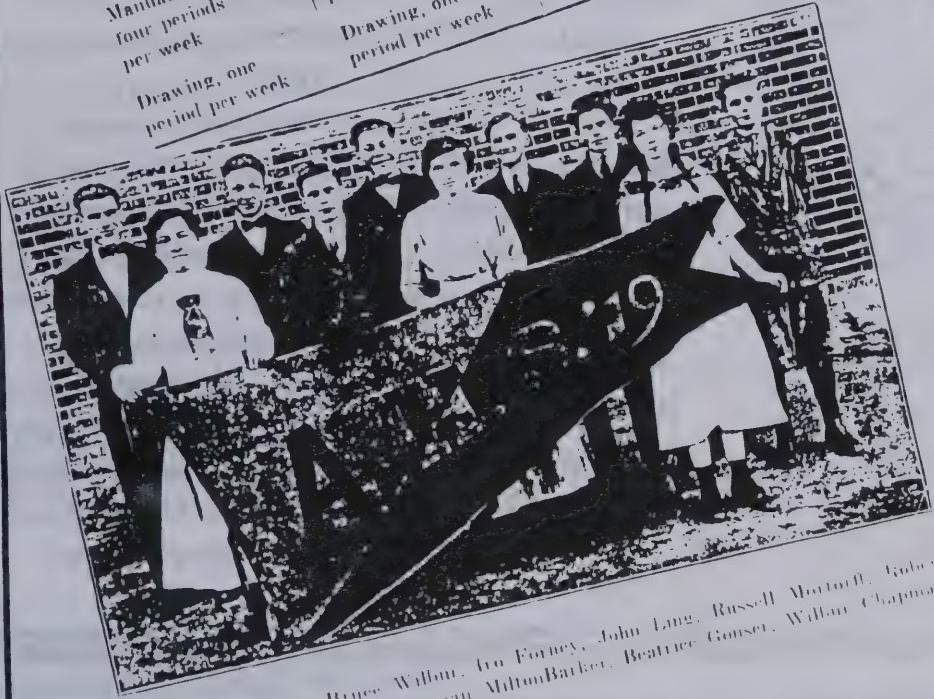
Interview with Joe Buchs  
by Justin Buchs

Mrs. Fall was Joe Buch's favorite teacher. He had both Fred Fredrick and Cliff Warner for principals. He said that Mr. Warner "beat my rear and kicked me out of school." After hearing some of the things that Joe did, I can see why. He put crackleballs on Mrs. Hasselman's chair one time. His friends figured out how to make homemade nitroglycerin that happened to blow up outside the bus. He says he never heard about painting the chimney, but I wonder...



COURSE OF STUDY

Freshman	Classics Composition and Rhetoric	Sophomore	Junior	Classics American Literature	Senior
German	Classics Composition and Rhetoric	German	German	Classics English Literature	American History and Civics
Algebra	Algebra $\frac{1}{2}$ year	P. Geometry $\frac{1}{2}$ year	P. Geometry $\frac{1}{2}$ year	P. Geometry $\frac{1}{2}$ year	American History and Civics
General Science	••Music two periods per week.	Agriculture or Ancient History	••Music two periods per week.	S. Geometry $\frac{1}{2}$ year	Phys. Geog. $\frac{1}{2}$ year
Manual Training	Manual Training four periods per week	Manual Training four periods per week	••Music two periods per week.	•Physics or Med. and Mod. Hist.	Com. Arith. $\frac{3}{4}$ year
Drawing, one period per week	Drawing, one period per week	Manual Training elective	Manual Training elective	•Chemistry or Med. and Mod. Hist.	
				••Music two periods per week.	
				Manual Training elective	
				Drawing, one period per week	



From left to right: Bruce Wilbur, Iro Forney, John Lang, Russell Mortorff, Robert Lacy, Andrew Conrad, Roy Chapman, Milton Barker, Beatrice Gossel, William Chapman

GIRLS' BASKET BALL



ROW ONE—Marjorie Knoder, Captain.

Willa Kunderd.

ROW THREE—Mr. Frederick, Coach, Leota Wolfe, Jo Wilson. 1924

CLASS POEM.

A is for Ashley,  
Number one.  
Freshmen are we,  
Never' outdone.

We start on the run,  
At the tap'of the bell;  
If you can't see us coming  
You can hear us yell.

We are the class,  
You can bet your life,  
And nobody compares with us,  
In our daily strife.

Ninety-nine was our average,  
In spelling one week,  
And all through the year,  
This we tried to keep.

When the Seniors are gone,  
And the Juniors are too;  
With the Sophomores left,  
O, what shall we do?

Hah! I have an idea,  
We'll do it for fun,  
We'll crowd them out,  
As others have done.



The 1994-95 fourth grade students of Ashley Elementary  
wish to thank many alumni who have shared wonderful  
stories about their years at Ashley School.

Heather Herenden

Shayler Davidson

Randy Miller

Brendon Wilson

Laura Freec

Raven Giuliana

Jason Wendel

Jessica Hardison

Marcus

Beth Dilley

Mandy Brown

Kaycee People

Jeremy Fink

Som

Emily Davis

Strime

Mrs. Pickett

Ryan Schiffli

Platter

Hope Neely

Justin Bucks

Josh Wolfe



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